ANNUAL REPORT
1998/99

April 1, 1998 ~ March 31, 1999
Activities of the
Prince Edward Island
Advisory Council on the Status of Women

Cover Image

Circle of Life

"Circle of Life" - Fabric Art Hanging, 24" square

Theme: Cycles in Life

The life forces are represented by a continuous pink colour which brightens and darkens. Colours representing moods spiral out to form a circle. Issues depicting children, skills, work, beauty, violence, gender, disease, and philanthropy are represented in chaos or order, as the times permit.

Carol Boyles lives in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. She has studied Fashion and Design at Olds College, Alberta and Holland College, Charlottetown. Carol has taken many professional development workshops, seminars and classes in fabric arts. Her home and business, "The Vintage Needle", allow for lots of creativity especially in her doll fashions and wedding attire. Quilting and needlework are foremost in her many textile designs.

100-05315/

Prince Edward Island
CANADA

Advisory Council on the Status of Women

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December 1999

Honourable Pat Mella
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women
PO Box 2000
Charlottetown, PEI C1A 7N8

Dear Honourable Pat Mella,

I am pleased to present you with the 1998/99 Annual Report of the Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

The Annual Report contains a summary of Council's activities and services, publications and highlights of recommendations and services, and audited financial statements.

Sincerely,

Sharon O'Brien

Sharon O'Brien
Chairperson

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Mission: *The PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women is dedicated to equality and supports women's full and active participation in social, legal, cultural, economic, political and spiritual spheres of life.*

As we begin to move towards the Prince Edward Island Millennium, we find ourselves reflecting on the challenges and accomplishments for women in PEI over the years. At this important marker in our history, we also renew our commitment to work towards equality for all women.

The Advisory Council has a vision: A society which provides respect and equality of opportunity, for all people. This vision inspires the work that we do.

Although there have been important changes and improvements, we still face huge challenges toward our goal of equality. Women in PEI still experience violence and still live in poverty. Young women are dealing with the symptoms of low self-esteem, such as eating disorders. Most women still face the burden of the "double day," bearing most of the responsibility for unpaid work in the home and in the community.

The Advisory Council has the belief that women's contribution to social, political, legal, cultural and economic life must be valued and celebrated. We work towards this belief in a number of ways. The Advisory Council sponsors annual events that keep women's contributions and issues in the public view, such as International Women's Day Equality Recognition Awards, and the Purple Ribbon Campaign Against Violence. Through our regular meetings with government, participation on committees and working groups, as well as our Activities Update newsletter, we strive to maintain a positive profile for women's equality. The Council continues to work at increasing the awareness of how gender analysis impacts on programs, policies and legislation.

We are fortunate to have some of the voices of Island women represented through our Council members, who join us from across PEI. They bring a wealth of experiences and skills and represent the Council proudly in their communities, and will be profiled in this report. Chosen by the PEI Cabinet, they are your community's link to the Council.

We are sad to say goodbye to the PEI Women Do Math and Science project. Since 1991, through this project, Council has focused on encouraging girls to further their studies and consider careers in math, science and technology. The final two years of the project concentrated on sustainability of these goals within the formal education system. We know through feedback that this project touched the lives of hundreds of girls, their families, teachers and peers, and improved the status of many Islanders.

This report offers you a chance to see the important role the Advisory Council has in PEI. However, as an annual report represents only a summary of events and activities of the Council, please do not hesitate to contact us at the Council office at any time for more detailed information.

Sincerely,

Sharon O'Brien

Sharon O'Brien - Chairperson

Sharon O'Brien has served as a Council member since February 1995 and as Council Chairperson since October 1996.

As an Aboriginal woman, she has worked extensively on issues that affect the Aboriginal community. She was an award winning Real Estate agent from 1989 to 1993 and served as Councillor in the community of Cornwall from 1991 to 1995. Sharon is a tutor with Queens County Laubach Literacy, and is involved with many other community projects. She lives in Cornwall with her husband and three children.

Council term: February 16, 1995 to February 16, 2000.

The Advisory Council began in 1975 as an Order-In-Council. In 1988 the Council received full legislative standing with the *PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women Act.*

The PEI ACSW Act establishes the size of the Council; the number of Council meetings (currently four meetings per year); the reporting structure between the Chairperson and Minister Responsible; and, the mandate to monitor status of women issues, advise the provincial government and develop public awareness about issues affecting the status of women.

The Advisory Council:

- Serves as a community arm to the provincial government and acts as a liaison and advisor regarding issues identified by communities and individual women in PEI
- Informs the Minister Responsible on the Status of Women through monthly meetings and regular correspondence about events and issues concerning women's equality
- Conducts research and offers recommendations to government departments, committees, royal commissions, special task forces and community consultations
- Recommends policy programs and legislation which promote equality of opportunity
- Initiates and participates in projects of benefit to Island women with women's groups, committees, and government departments
- Initiates and/or participates in speaking engagements, conferences, media conferences and other public education activities

The Council is an arm's length advisory agency and achieves its mandate through its unique relationship with both government and the community. Over the years, the Council has developed a policy of commitment toward feminist process in conducting its affairs and in problem resolution.

- Responds to enquiries from individuals, organizations and government concerning status of women issues
- Provides leadership that educates and stimulates public awareness about issues identified by community and government regarding status of women, and
- Meets with other provincial/territorial Advisory Councils

The Council is a nine-member volunteer Board. The Chairperson receives honoraria for five days per month and members receive honoraria on Council meeting days.

To promote continuity, Executive Council appoints the Chairperson from existing members. For other appointments, the Council provides the Minister Responsible with the names of Island women who have demonstrated a commitment to women's equality. Executive Council then makes the appointments, based on the recommendations of the Minister Responsible, and requests from other Ministers and groups.

Council business is directed and determined mainly at council meetings four times per year.

In 1998-99 the meetings were:
- 59th meeting - June 1998
- 60th meeting - October 1998
- 61st meeting - January 1999
- 62nd meeting - March 1999

In addition to four full council meetings each year, members of the Executive met by phone and in person.

Members are appointed by the Executive Council and usually represent regional, cultural and ethnic diversity (i.e. youth, lesbian, Aboriginal women, Francophone women, women of colour, disabled women). Council members are appointed for two and three year terms.

Members who finished their term in 1998

Norma DesRoches - Member

Norma is involved in her community and in Island politics. She has served as a councillor for the Centre Ward of the Town of Summerside. Her diverse activities include business and industry associations and a keen interest in women's equality issues in all of her work. Norma has served on the Board of the East Prince Women's Information Centre (EPWIC). She lives in Summerside with her family.

Council term: September 23, 1993 - September 23, 1998.

Current Council Members

Audrey Currie - Vice Chairperson

Audrey was appointed Vice Chairperson in the summer of 1996. She is a teacher and psychometrician who has taught special and regular classes at elementary, secondary and post-secondary levels in English and French. She is a member of the PEI Teachers' Federation, the Association of Special Education Teachers, and the PEI Language Arts Teachers' Association. She has served on the Kings County Arts Council, Association of Learning Disabilities, and as a 4-H Leader. She lives with her family in Orwell Cove.

Council term: February 16, 1995 - February 16, 2000.

Marguerite Arsenault - Treasurer

Marguerite is Coordinator of the Southern Kings Community Resource Centre. An active member of her Eastern Kings community she worked with Heart Health PEI and volunteered with the Eastern Kings Interagency Committee on Family Violence Prevention and the Eastern Kings Active Living Community. She lives in Souris with her family.

Council term: September 23, 1996 - September 23, 1999.

Patricia Ballem - Member

Patricia is a journalist with the Journal Pioneer in Summerside. Patricia is bilingual and lives in St. Nicholas with her family. She is a member of l'Association des Acadiennes et Francophones de l'I.-P-E.

Council term: January 27, 1998 - January 27, 2001.

Inge Blackett - Member

Inge is an experienced chef and food services manager, trained in culinary arts and management, as well as hospital food management. She was an active community member in Souris serving in many volunteer capacities at the Souris Hospital. She is a volunteer with PEI Rape/Sexual Assault Crisis Centre, is very active in the Jewish community, and other community groups. Inge resides in Stratford.

Council term: January 27, 1998 - January 27, 2001.

Maxine Ellis - Member

Maxine is a licensed financial planner and RRSP administrator employed at Central Credit Union, O'Leary. She volunteers with community organizations including Community Arena and canvassing for charities. Maxine lives in West Cape with her husband and son.

Council term: January 27, 1998 - September 23, 1999.

Rosemary Faulkner - Member

Rosemary is program director for family support and self-help with the Canadian Mental Health Association where she supports and connects individuals and families dealing with physical and mental illness and stressful life situations. She also manages the PEI Self-Help Clearinghouse. She presently chairs the advisory panel for the Atlantic Breast Cancer Information Project, facilitates the Breast Cancer Survivor Network and is involved with the PEI Pottery Studio. She lives with her family in Stratford.
Council term: January 27, 1998 - March 1, 2001.

Mary Nicholson - Member

Mary is a Charlottetown lawyer, active in the legal community. She has served on a number of volunteer boards including: Queen's County Committee of the Transition House Association, Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF), Charlottetown Area Housing Association, and Camp Gencheff. She has chaired the PEI Mental Health Review Board.
Council term: September 23, 1996 - September 23, 1999.

Valerie Smallman - Member

Valerie is coordinator of West Prince Transition and Support Service for women and their children who are experiencing difficulties in their relationships due to abuse. She has been a member of Partners for Prevention and Provincial Child Sexual Abuse Committees. She is currently co-chair of the Rainbow Residence Advisory Committee and responsible for the day-to-day operation of the West Prince Rainbow Residence - next step housing. She is an active community member with groups such as KIDS West program and Crime Prevention Committee.
Council term: September 29, 1998 - September 29, 2001.

Council Staff

The Council has two full-time and one part-time staff.

Director, Lisa Murphy joined Council in May 1990.

Communications Coordinator, Heidi Rankin joined the staff in April 1997. Heidi acted as Executive Director for nine months while Lisa was on leave.

Administrative Assistant, Becky Tramley works part-time and joined Council in October 1986.

Betty Belaire works on a contract basis at the Council as a part-time cataloguer.

Members and staff carry out the work of Council in many ways:

- **Information Service**
- **Annual Events**
- **Networking**
- **Publications and Research**
- **Consultation and Media**
- **Recommendations and Submissions to Government**
- **Public Speaking**
- **Committees**
- **Regular Meetings with the Minister Responsible**

Council Business - *Information Service*

The Advisory Council responds to enquiries from individuals and groups, government and the media on a range of questions and issues. The enquiries range from requests for documented or statistical information to referrals to crisis calls and calls for advocacy on legal rights, for example. People make enquiries in person, through telephone, email or by letter.

Requests for information in crisis or advocacy situations are often complex calls from women who have tried to get information or service without success. Sometimes information and referral is enough to respond to the request, but frequently callers need additional support or intervener help to satisfy their request.

Council Business - *Annual Events*

The Council sponsors a number of annual events that keep women's contributions and issues in the public view.

International Women's Day (IWD) Event and Equality Recognition Awards
Council hosted the 6th Annual IWD Awards in 1999. The 1999 Awards presentation held at the Atlantic Tourism and Hospitality Institute was celebrated with singing by New Dimensions quartet, members of the all-women chorus, Abegweit Chimes.

The highlight of the event is the presentation of the awards to women and organizations who have worked to improve the lives of Island women. Recipients of the Equality Recognition Awards are chosen by a committee-at-large from public nominations. 1999 recipients were:

- Individual Award to Beth Percival for her long-standing commitment to social change and women's equality, both at UPEI and within the larger community.
- Group Award to Transition House Association which has provided a place of safety for women and their children who are victims of abuse since 1980.
- Employer Award to Southern Kings Health Community Resource Centre for its commitment to health promotion and illness prevention demonstrated by two successful Women's Health Conferences in 1997 and 1998.
- Lifetime Achievement Award to Marion Reid, first woman Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and first woman in Atlantic Canada to hold the office of Lieutenant Governor, for her more than 50 years of leadership in her official and voluntary roles.

Annual Events -
- **International Women's Day (IWD) Equality Recognition Awards**
- **Purple Ribbon Campaign**
- **Bursary to Holland College and University of Prince Edward Island Students**

Purple Ribbon Campaign

December 6th is the National Day of Remembrance and Action, which commemorates the murder of 14 female engineering students and workers in Montreal in 1989. The Council's 7th Purple Ribbon Campaign, distributed thousands of purple ribbons on cards with information and statistics about family violence on PEI. Islanders are encouraged to wear the purple ribbon on or near December 6th to remember all women who are victims of violence. Cards and ribbons are distributed to civil servants, Island women's groups, and also made available at the Montreal Massacre Memorial Service organized by the UPEI Women's Centre. Through the support of the Premier's Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention, and council staff and volunteers 8,000 purple ribbons and cards were distributed to Islanders.

Advisory Council Bursary Recipients

Each year the Council awards bursaries to two women to help them continue their studies. The Advisory Council's annual bursaries were awarded this year to Patricia Gilbert of Holland College and Hara Kempton of UPEI. A Council committee reviews the applications and makes selections.

In recognition and support of women pursuing non-traditional fields, *The PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women Engineering Bursary for Women* is awarded to a woman entering third year engineering at UPEI. The bursary is awarded to a student who maintains a passing average and demonstrates financial need. The bursary was established in 1995 by the Government of PEI on the Twentieth Anniversary of the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women. The bursary supports the Council's work to encourage young women to choose careers in math and science fields and also pays tribute to the fourteen women who were murdered at L'Ecole Polytechnique in 1989. The bursary is processed through the Registrar's office at UPEI and application must be made before October 13.

The Advisory Council acts as sponsor and organizer of projects that affect the status of women.

During 1998/99 the Council sponsored two projects:

- **PEI Women Do Math and Science**
- **Impact of Social Policy Reform on Women's Health**

PEI Women Do Math and Science

The Advisory Council initiated the PEI Women Do Math and Science projects in 1991 to make sure girls are encouraged to pursue and prepare for opportunities in math, science and technology. The final PEI Women Do Math and Science Project involved twenty-five Grade 6 teachers from across PEI in a series of four workshops examining gender considerations in education, promoting science and women in science, and celebrating science in the classroom. The project ended in September 1998, and three reports are available: *Gender Considerations - Workshops Report, Gender Considerations for the PEI Educational System,* and *Celebrating Science in the Classroom.*

Impact of Social Policy Reform on Women's Health

The Advisory Council sponsored this participatory research project, funded by the Maritime Centre of Excellence for Women's Health, initiated by Julie Devon Dodd. Twenty-five single mothers on social assistance in the Queens Region participated in interviews about factors that affect their health and changes in programs or services. A working group of women from community groups, government and UPEI, and Cooper Institute staff who worked on the research, learned together in understanding how policy affects the health of women. A report will be available in June 1999. Its findings will be widely distributed.

Council Business - *Publications and Research*

The Council releases regular and special publications, and conducts research on issues affecting women's equality.

Activities Update

The Council Newsletter *Activities Update* keeps people informed about Council news and business, current issues important to the status of women, and community notices. *Activities Update* is sent to more than 500 people or groups. During 1998/99 the newsletter was published three times.

Regular Council publications include the Annual Report and Activities Update.

Moving On

Council researched and wrote a booklet for women on what to do if a marriage or partnership break-up occurs. The booklet is in the final stages and will be widely distributed.

Unpaid Work

Council researched and prepared a synthesis paper on the issues and nature of women's work across the lifespan with emphasis on the uniqueness of the seasonal-based economy in PEI and women's unpaid work. The report will contribute to knowledge and apparent gaps in the development of appropriate policies and programs to ensure economic security for women of all ages. This report is also in the final stages of plain-language writing and design, and will be widely distributed and work-shopped.

Council Business - *Meetings and Consultations*

Council members and staff attend many meetings and consultations, as individuals or representing the Advisory Council, each year.

Highlights of Meetings and Consultations: 1998-99

- Services for Adult Survivors (SAS) Board and SAS House Board
- New Identities for Victims in Life Threatening Relationships
- Circle of Health Consultation - Family Violence Prevention
- Provincial Crime Prevention Conference
- Women and Well-Being Conference, Halifax Women's Institute Annual Meeting
- Joint Press Conference on Custody/Access Report released in Halifax by the four Atlantic Advisory Councils, Federal Custody and Access Hearings
- PEI Employment Summit Presentation
- Women's Institute Annual Meeting
- Heart and Stroke Breakfast Symposium Co-sponsor
- Eastern School Board, Safe School Policy Meetings
- Young Women: Raising Voices, Channeling Energies, Nova Scotia
- Women and Diversity Project Steering Committee
- DAWN (Disabled Women's Network) Project Steering Committee
- L'Association des Acadiennes et Francophones de l'IPE Women's Conference
- Federal Budget Consultation
- Unpaid Work in the PEI Fishery Community Consultation
- Community Promise Forum
- Well Women Coalition Meetings
- Take Back the Night March
- PEI Conflict Resolution Cooperative
- Press Conference - Women's Addiction Programs Funding
- PEACEWORKS - Violence in the Schools Initiative
- Women's March 2000 Planning Committee
- Diversity in Education Working Group
- UPEI Women's Studies Student Conference

- ALERT (provincial anti-poverty organization) workshop with Council about poverty issues
- Montreal Massacre Memorial Service, UPEI
- Roundtable Discussion on Rural Issues, organized by Federal Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, Hedy Fry
- "Mapping the Future" conference, sponsored by the New Brunswick Advisory Council on the Status of Women

Strategic Planning

Council continues a focus on planning to clarify mission, set priorities and focus activities. A review of Advisory Councils across the country assisted Council in recommending a benefit's package for staff. In addition to developing strategic and operational plans, the process helps to build relationships among Council members toward shared goals. The process will result in a planning and monitoring process, clarified policies, and renewed orientation manuals.

Council Business - *Highlights of Issues and Recommendations*

National Child Benefit

The Advisory Council wrote to Minister Dover to express concerns about the government's plans to deduct the increased Child Tax Benefit from those on social assistance. While Council supports any initiatives to help the working poor (many of whom are single mothers working for minimum wage) the "claw backs" were seen essentially as taking money from the poorest to give to the poor. Council proposed a compromise, and asked that PEI only deduct a portion of the amount received by social assistance recipients, perhaps a 50% formula. Our recommendations were not taken.

Third-Party Complaints

Council wrote to Charlottetown City Police requesting that they develop a protocol for third-party complaints. The intention is that the police would respond to calls about suspected violence against women. Council consulted with community organizations that work in the area of family violence and all agreed that police agencies should implement and also

advertise the measures that they will take in situations of suspected or substantiated abuse to better ensure the protection of women, children and vulnerable males. The Charlottetown City Police did not agree with the Council's request, stating that existing procedures were satisfactory.

PEI Employment Summit.
The Advisory Council presented a brief to the Employment Summit Panel in November. The Council's submission asked for a gender analysis when looking at employment issues, as well as consideration of unpaid work in all provincial employment strategies and policies.

Pay Equity
The Advisory Council requested that the Prime Minister support the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal's pay equity ruling. It asked the government to bring closure to the ongoing discrimination that has spanned 14 years. Although the issue is a federal matter, and the Advisory Council has a provincial mandate, the pay equity decision has a direct impact on Island women.

PEI Lawyers Listing
In recognition of Person's Day and LEAF PEI, Council published its annual female lawyer's listing for distribution. The purpose is to profile progressive law firms that employ women, and encourage people to hire female lawyers for legal work.

Roundtable on Rural Women's Issues
The Council helped the staff of federal Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, Hedy Fry, to contact women representatives of Island organizations and women working in rural-based sectors to participate in a roundtable on June 24. Twenty-nine women attended the meeting and eleven presentations were made to Ms. Fry. Some of the issues that council identified include the need for women's access to: affordable transportation, legal aid, universal health care and services (cancer treatments), national child care programs, loan capital and government assistance programs for home-based and small business ventures. The issue of women's unpaid and underpaid work was highlighted as an important

area for government policy and program development. As a follow-up to the Council's participation in the Rural Dialogues session held in Orwell Corner in May, Council made a written presentation to the Canadian Rural Partnership initiative of the federal Minister Coordinating Rural Affairs.

Women's Health

Council continues a focus on women's health, supporting the Well Women's Coalition campaign to increase accessibility of prevention and early detection services for hard-to-contact women. Janet Bryanton, PEI Reproductive Care Program made a presentation to Council on June 24th. This gave Council an overview of data gathered about Island mothers and babies. Issues of concern: 8.6% of babies delivered in PEI in 1996 were born to teenagers less than 19 years old, 28.2% of teenagers smoked while pregnant, numbers of teenagers attending prenatal classes has dropped, Caesarean sections are very high in PEI, breast-feeding rates are down. Through letters, Council supported Marlene Bryenton in her work to keep both mammography machines operational at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

Family Law Issues

The Advisory Council made a presentation to the Special Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons on Child Custody in May. The submission was based on a community consultation held in Charlottetown. The Advisory Council made some innovative recommendations regarding the establishment of a provincial family dispute resolution agency and immediate temporary maintenance support payment at the point of family breakdown. Following the release of the Committee report, "For the Sake of the Children," the PEI Advisory Council and the other Atlantic Advisory Councils critical of many of the recommendations, held a joint press conference in Halifax in December.

Safe Schools Policy

The Advisory council worked with the Eastern School District to develop a policy to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment in PEI schools. Council highlighted the need for a victim-sensitive approach, clear definitions of harassment and discrimination, as well as procedures that are accountable and pro-active.

AUDITOR GENERAL

CHARLOTTETOWN

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the
Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women

I have audited the balance sheet of the Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women as at March 31, 1999 and the statement of revenues, expenditures and equity for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Council's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. These standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at March 31, 1999 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with general accepted accounting principles.

J. Wayne Murphy, FCA
Auditor General

Charlottetown, P.E.I.
April 27, 1999

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

BALANCE SHEET

MARCH 31, 1999

ASSETS

	1999	1998
Current Assets		
Cash	$5,683	$4,010
Accounts receivable	43	1,158
Prepaid expenses	584	908
	$6,310	$6,076

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	$5,146	$5,023
Surplus	1,164	1,053
	$6,310	$6,076

(The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements)

ON BEHALF OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL:

Chairperson

Member

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND EQUITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1999

	1999	1998
Revenues		
Provincial appropriation - Note 2	$114,500	$108,200
Program revenues	7,862	15,924
Miscellaneous revenues	571	2,746
	122,933	126,870
Expenditures		
Administration	3,186	3,663
Bursary	500	500
Conferences	1,243	50
Equipment leases - Note 3	2,612	2,612
Equipment purchases - Note 1(a)	2,521	1,063
Honoraria	11,348	10,310
Materials and supplies	2,139	2,969
Program expenses	6,540	12,393
Salaries and benefits	91,361	91,966
Travel - In Province	1,372	1,744
	122,822	127,270
Income (Loss) for the year	111	(400)
Surplus, beginning of year	1,053	1,453
Surplus, end of year	$ 1,164	$ 1,053

(The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements)

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 1999

1. Accounting Policy:

These statements were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for non-profit organizations with:
(a) Capital assets expensed when purchased.
(b) Leases treated as operating leases and lease costs expensed as they become due.

2. Provincial Appropriation:

The Provincial Appropriation amount of $114,500 includes an operating grant of $100,000 and other provincial grants totalling $14,500.

3. Equipment Lease:

A photocopier is leased until January 31, 2001 and the total lease payments are $2,612 annually.

CHAPTER A-6

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN ACT

Definitions

1. In this Act

Minister

(a) "Minister" means the Minister responsible for the status of women as designated by the Executive Council;

Council

(b) "Council" means the Council established under section 2. 1988,c.7,s.1.

Council

2. There is established an Advisory Council on the Status of Women. 1988,c.7,s.2.

Functions

3. The Council shall

(a) develop public awareness of the issues affecting the status of women;

(b) promote a change in attitudes within the community in order that women may enjoy an equality of opportunity;

(c) encourage discussion and expression of opinion by Island residents on issues affecting the status of women;

(d) advise the Minister with respect to such issues as the Minister may refer to the Council for consideration;

(e) review policies and legislation affecting women and report its findings to the relevant governmental departments or agencies;

(f) provide assistance to the Minister in promoting changes to ensure the attainment of equality objectives of women; and

(g) provide assistance, as the Council deems appropriate, to organizations and groups whose objectives promote the equality of women. 1988,c.7,s.3.

Powers

4. The Council may

(a) receive and hear submissions and suggestions from individuals and groups concerning the status of women;

(b) research matters relating to the status of women and suggest research areas in relation thereto that may be studied by any interested person;

(c) recommend and participate in programs concerning the status of women;

(d) recommend legislation, policies and practices to promote equality of opportunity for women and to improve the status of women;

(e) publish such reports, studies and recommendations as the Council feels advisable; and

(f) present reports to the Minister for presentation to the Legislative Assembly. 1988,c.7,s.4.

Composition

5. (1) The Council shall consist of nine members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

Term of office

(2) The members of the Council shall be appointed for a term of not less than two and not more than three years.

Reappointment

(3) A member is eligible for reappointment for a second term of not less than one and not more than two years.

Idem

(4) Anyone who has served on the Council for a period of four years or more is ineligible for reappointment.

Time for appointment

(5) Within three months of the expiry of a term of office of a member, the Lieutenant Governor in Council shall appoint or reappoint a member as the case may be. 1988,c.7,s.5.

Meetings

6. (1) The Council shall hold at least four meetings in each year.

Location

(2) Meetings of the Council may be held anywhere in the province. 1988,c.7,s.6.

Chairperson

7. (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council shall appoint a chairperson and a vice-chairperson from the members of the Council.

Functions

(2) The chairperson is the chief executive officer of the Council and shall direct the activities of the Council and co-ordinate its work.

Vice-chairperson

(3) The vice-chairperson shall act where the chairperson is unable to act by reason of absence or inability. 1988,c.7,s.7.

Remuneration

8. Members of the Council shall serve without remuneration other than

(a) such remuneration for attendance at each meeting of the Council as may be prescribed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council; and

(b) reimbursement for expenses necessarily incurred by a member in connection with the work of the Council. 1988,c.7,s.8.

Budget

9. Each year, on or before September 30, the Council shall submit to the Minister an estimate of the money required for the operation of the Council during the next fiscal year, setting forth the estimated revenue and expenditure in such detail and in such form as the Minister may require. 1988,c.7,s.9.

Audit

10. The accounts of the Council shall be audited from time to time by the Auditor General whose report shall be included in the annual report of the Council. 1988,c.7,s.10.

Annual report

11. (1) The Council shall, within three months after the end of each fiscal year, submit to the Minister an annual report which shall contain

(a) a report of all meetings conducted by the Council during the year;

(b) a report of the findings, conclusions and recommendations made by the Council to the Minister during the year.

Minister to submit report to Legislative Assembly

(2) The Minister shall, within one month of the receipt of the report, present the report of the Council to the Legislative Assembly if the Assembly is then in session and, if it is not, then within one month after the commencement of the next ensuing session. 1988,c.7,s.11.

Staff

12. The Council may employ or engage such persons as it considers necessary to carry out its functions. 1988,c.7,s.12.

Bylaws

13. The Council may make bylaws for its internal management. 1988,c.7,s.13.

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